

JULY 30, 2003

**SCHAKOWSKY SHOCKED AND INSULTED
BY PRESIDENT BUSH'S COMMENTS ON HOMOSEXUALITY**

CHICAGO, IL - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) said she was "shocked and insulted" by comments made today by President Bush during a White House news conference where he seemed to equate homosexuality with sin.[] []

Below is the letter Schakowsky sent to President Bush:[]

July 30, 2003

***The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.[] 205100***

Dear President Bush:[]

[]

I was shocked and insulted by your response to a question about homosexuality during your news conference today.[] Your response that "we are all sinners" seemed to equate homosexuality with sin.[] While you may not approve of homosexuality, as the leader of all Americans, you have no right to make such judgments.[] Though you say "it's very important for our society to respect each individual," you demonstrate utter disrespect by calling homosexuals sinners.

Regarding same sex marriage, as someone who clearly values committed, monogamous, long-term relationships, I would hope that you would rethink your position and drop your advocacy of legislation that would prohibit the sanctioning of these unions.

I believe that you owe a sincere and immediate apology to the lesbian and gay communities for your insensitive remarks.[] Those remarks are also an affront to all enlightened Americans.

I look forward to your prompt response.[]

Sincerely,

***Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress***